

# National Congress Bulletin



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## *Membership Proclamation*

### FAITH AND FULFILLMENT

**S**IXTY-FOUR YEARS AGO a national organization was born of faith—faith in education, in the intelligence of ordinary people, in selfless, cooperative action. It was born in a time when ignorance of the causes of disease, ignorance of sanitation and of children's health needs caused high death rates and illnesses among young children. It was born in a time when rapid industrialization, labor shortages, and poverty took children from school and put them to work on farms, in factories, and in sweatshop tasks at home.

The early leaders of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers had faith that intelligent, compassionate people, alerted to the suffering, neglect, and exploitation of children, would demand legislation to protect them. They had faith that parents could, and would, use sound information if it was made available to them. They worked imaginatively to get the findings of research into homes in usable, useful form. They worked heroically to inform the public on the need for child labor legislation, juvenile courts, compulsory school attendance laws, and other measures to protect children and enlarge their opportunities.

**T**HEIR FAITH was abundantly fulfilled. Today's infant has a far better chance for survival and healthy growth and far richer educational opportunities than

the infant born in 1897. But the work of the Congress is not done. It will never be done. Each year there will be new strains and stresses affecting children and families. For we live, as almost every day demonstrates, in an era of unprecedented change. And change is a two-edged tool. It may bring benefits, but it may also create chaos, confusion, undesirable conditions, and hardships—at least temporarily.

Change has already wrought much to be concerned about in today's world. We need to be concerned about our schools. Scientific and technical progress has changed the nature of work, creating demands for higher mental competence and more skilled manpower. Yet our schools, which must bear the chief burden of producing competent young people, are still understaffed, overcrowded, inadequately financed, and in some places underdeveloped.

**W**E SHOULD be concerned about what is happening, or not happening, in our schools—in class organization, curriculum, guidance and counseling, physical education.

We should be particularly concerned about our high school students. Academic pressures, national and international tensions, and the unpredictable future are intensifying the normal anxiety, conflicts, and insecurity of the

adolescent period. Teen-age worry over college admission, a Harvard psychiatrist warns us, is becoming a mental health problem. Never was it so important to organize high school P.T.A.'s, where parents and teachers can work together and with young people on the difficulties that beset adolescents.

We need to be deeply concerned also over the young people who drop out of school. The vast number of unemployed, out-of-school youth roaming our city slums has been called "social dynamite."

**W**E NEED to be concerned about our changing communities. Into our cities each year pour impoverished rural families, and out of our cities stream prosperous families in search of better living and better schools in the suburbs. Are our cities becoming wastelands for the culturally and economically underprivileged? Are our suburbs isolating youth behind a velvet curtain that shuts off social vision? Behind the velvet curtain are we rearing youth with sharpened self-concern and dulled social conscience?

**N**ow, more than ever in the past, there is need for an organization that can cope with change and guide it for children's good. The National Congress of Parents and Teachers is such an organization. And we warmly, indeed insist-

(Continued on page 2)

## FAITH AND FULFILLMENT (Continued)

ently, invite all parents, teachers, and friends of youth to work with us in the P.T.A.

Behind us lie sixty-four years of faith and fulfillment. Ahead of us lie gigantic tasks, but the past assures us that, working together, parents, teachers, and compassionate citizens can accomplish marvels. We too can institute, foster, and speed changes that are good for children. We too can effectively resist and even reverse changes that are bad. Through the P.T.A. we help to alleviate the hardships and confusion that result from change, and we help to establish services to meet new needs.

**T**HIS CHANGING WORLD challenges P.T.A. members to control change and direct it for the welfare of all children. Therefore, I, Margaret E. Jenkins, president of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, designate the month of October 1961 as P.T.A. Membership Enrollment Month, and most cordially urge all friends of children and youth to join us as we strive to cope with change. If we would wrest from it bright hope, radiant faith, and rich fulfillment for our children, we need the knowledge, imagination, and energies of every parent and teacher in the land.

*Margaret E. Jenkins*

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# WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT BELONGING TO THE P.T.A.

## A Governor

● Since good public schools depend on public understanding and community support, the P.T.A. has a unique opportunity and responsibility to further the improvement of our public education system. Through the unity of interest of parents and teachers, the P.T.A. can strive successfully to assure every child in Florida of the education which will fit him mentally, physically, socially, and spiritually to assume the duties of citizenship which one day will be his.—**LEROY COLLINS, Former Governor, State of Florida, in his 1960 membership message.**

## A School Superintendent

● The P.T.A. is one national organization in which the leadership, the direction, the real driving force comes from the local unit. This is not always true in national organizations, whether they are political or nonpolitical. Too many times in large national organizations the leadership comes from the top down. I do not believe at all that this is true in the parent-teacher association. The real life blood of the P.T.A. is the local unit—the unit that works and lives in the community it serves. When the local unit works, the whole organization works. When the local unit lies down on the job, the damaging effect is felt far and wide.—**C. C. MASON, superintendent of schools, Tulsa, Oklahoma.**

## A Clergyman

1. To be a member of the P.T.A. makes me just a little closer to my son, who means more to me than anyone or anything else.

2. I am a property owner and hence a part of my taxes go to carry on the school program. I would not be getting all the possible benefit out of my tax dollar if I refused to belong to the P.T.A.

3. I want to be fair to the teacher who has pledged to help my boy some day to take his place in society. The P.T.A. gives me the opportunity to give his

teacher the cooperation she needs in helping him.

4. The P.T.A. is a clearing house for problems that inevitably arise. By being a member, I profit by this opportunity for interchange.

5. My membership in the P.T.A. gives me a chance to contribute toward bettering our community. I want my boy to live in the best possible community.

6. Through the P.T.A. a better teacher-parent relationship is engendered so that my son's school experience is enriched.

7. Rather than carp about faults in our schools, I want to do all I can to make our school the best it can be. The P.T.A. has this as one of its goals.

8. Being a member of the P.T.A. makes me a party to its policy and operation as I have a right to be in a country whose government is of the people, by the people, and for the people.

9. Every time I attend a meeting of the P.T.A. I show my boy that I am in "his corner." He feels I know how to speak his language.

10. I want my boy to be able to say "My Dad belongs."—**THE REVEREND E. E. NOLAND, Meridian, Mississippi**

## A Typical P.T.A. Member

● I believe in the P.T.A. because for the past several years it has accepted my membership without ballot; without condemning my religious beliefs or trying to change them; without inquiring into my past or delving into my future.

It does not ask for a full purse, nor does it require affiliation with or dependence upon any other organization, yet it has grown rapidly through good times and bad.

Nothing but my conscience can deny me membership, and any good I may offer is eagerly accepted and returned tenfold.—**KATHERINE A. DAVIS (source unknown).**

# National LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

• April 1, 1961–June 30, 1961 •

*Show this list to friends whose names appear here. What other citizens in our community deserve to share this spotlight?*

GREETINGS, new National Life Members. It is always thrilling to welcome those who have recently been chosen to receive the highest honor that can be bestowed within the National Congress. It would be exciting to know of your particular citation—what special field of child concern you have served—and to know the details of the occasions in which you were honored in this meaningful way.

As each Honorary National Life Membership is bestowed, The Endowment Fund of the National Congress is increased and strengthened. By awarding National Life Memberships, parent-teacher groups give expression to their never-ending interest in, and concern for, the welfare of children and youth.

Again, a cordial welcome to the newcomers in our ever enlarging circle.

MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD  
A Director of The Endowment Fund  
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

• • •

**Alabama:** Mrs. Mary L. Manasco, Haleyville; Mrs. Guy L. Ray, Haleyville; Esther Turnham (Mrs. F. H. Turnham), Birmingham

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• The National Life Membership pin (magnified here) is made of rolled gold and blue enamel.

Mrs. John Gibbs, Mt. Holly; Mrs. Michael Rusch, Passaic

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# FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

## Promote The PTA Magazine

### To P.T.A. Presidents:

WHEN THE National Congress promotes any national project it always seeks out ways of implementing its work at the local unit level. This is because its real power for action and accomplishment lies at the "grass roots" within the individual local unit.

The awakening of this power depends largely upon the attitude of the local unit president. What the president thinks is important is likely to be important to the unit as a whole. For this reason the national chairman of the Committee on The PTA Magazine requests your cooperation. You can help so much in promoting the sale and especially the use of the official *PTA Magazine*. Here's how!

● *Be a subscriber, a reader, and a user of the Magazine.*

● *Let the Magazine chairman know that you think his work is very important.*

● *Read the promotional materials that come in the packet addressed to you before you pass them along to the Magazine chairman.*

● *See to it personally that these materials reach the Magazine chairman promptly.* Discuss with the chairman ways of putting them to work.

● *Broaden the knowledge* and the use of the Magazine by planning with the executive committee for continuing cooperation of the Magazine chairman with other chairmen—for example, membership, program service, study group, parent and family life education, audio-visual services, preschool service.

● *Encourage reading* of the Magazine through discussion at executive committee

meetings and by allotting the Magazine chairman time at each P.T.A. meeting to give a brief and snappy presentation of the latest and coming issues of the Magazine.

● *Make it possible* for the Magazine chairman to take subscriptions "on the spot."

● *Encourage the Magazine chairman* to make good use of the five cents from each subscription that may be retained for promotion purposes.

● *Enlist the interest* of P.T.A. members in presenting gift subscriptions to teachers and other educators, both at home and overseas.

● *Be enthusiastic* about subscription gains. Send new subscriptions promptly to the national Magazine office!

● *Express clearly* the viewpoint that promotion of the sale and use of the official *PTA Magazine* is a very worthwhile unit project and a very real service to P.T.A. members and the community.

Local unit presidents are very important people. They are very busy people, and they are also the local units' model members. It is no wonder that we think they are key people in every important undertaking!

We are counting on all 47,000 of you!

*Sarah E. Johnson*

MRS. HORACE H. JOHNSON, National Chairman  
The PTA Magazine Committee

**FOOTNOTE ON A NAME**—Everybody likes to see his name spelled right. Every P.T.A. member, we are sure, wants to see the new name of our official Magazine used consistently and correctly wherever it appears. So just to set the record straight, here's the way it's really written: *The PTA Magazine*.

Note that "The" is part of the title. There are no periods separating the "PTA"—unlike the abbreviation used in referring to parent-teacher associations, which still carries the periods and is written P.T.A.

Remember, it's *The PTA Magazine*!

### Let's Make History!

★ During the summer a Magazine Promotion Packet was sent to each local president, with the request that it be turned over to the person in each unit responsible for promotion of *The PTA Magazine*.

This packet contains tools to help Magazine workers make history—that is, to chalk up the best sales record in the history of *The PTA Magazine*. Among the tools are:

● *Information for The PTA Magazine Chairmen*, an eight-page leaflet that explains the mechanics of subscription taking, recording, and reporting.

● A sixteen-page leaflet of *Promotion Ideas* to spark the kind of Magazine promotion activity that turns into subscription taking.

● *Program Jiffyskits*, twenty-four pages of lively, easy-to-give skits about the Magazine to present at P.T.A. meetings.

After studying the packet materials, Magazine workers will have the ideas and information they need for their "history-making" assignment.

### Something New— Bonus Subscriptions

★ This year, as an incentive to promotion of *The PTA Magazine*, local units are being offered Bonus Subscriptions instead of Magazine Club Certificates as in past years. Here's how the Bonus Subscription plan works.

For each 25 subscriptions that a unit sends to the Magazine office in Chicago, it may receive one Bonus Subscription, signifying that it has contributed to the welfare of children and youth by acquainting parents and teachers with *The PTA Magazine*. Although the unit may have the Bonus Subscription sent to whomever it wishes, it is urged to give it to someone who is not already on the unit's subscription list, so as to promote the wider use of the Magazine.

Whenever a P.T.A. has forwarded enough subscriptions to qualify for a Bonus Subscription, the local association may claim it by notifying the Magazine office (on the Bonus Subscription Application Form included in the Magazine Packet). Address all requests for Bonus Subscriptions to:

BONUS SUBSCRIPTION  
DEPARTMENT  
The PTA Magazine  
700 North Rush Street  
Chicago 11, Illinois

All subscriptions secured and forwarded any time between April 1, 1961, and March 31, 1962, may be counted toward Bonus Subscriptions.

### Announcing— Awards to State Congresses

★ The 1961-62 plan of awards to state congresses for promotion of *The PTA Magazine* has been announced by the board of directors of The National Parent-Teacher.

Awards will be made on the basis of subscriptions received from April 1, 1961, through March 31, 1962. (Bonus Subscriptions will be counted toward a state's total.) To qualify for an award a state congress must show an increase in subscriptions over the previous year.

A state congress that meets any of the following requirements in its membership class-

fication (see "Classification of States") will receive an award for each achievement. The awards will be determined by the board of directors of The National Parent-Teacher and announced at the 1962 national convention in Portland, Oregon.

1. Greatest numerical gain in subscriptions over the previous year
2. Greatest per cent of gain
3. Greatest number of subscriptions
4. Greatest per cent of membership subscribing

#### CLASSIFICATION OF STATES

★ As a basis for all the awards, states will be divided into five groups according to P.T.A. membership as of April 15, 1961:

**Over 400,000:** California, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas.

**250,000 to 400,000:** Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia.

**150,000 to 250,000:** Alabama, Colorado, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Oklahoma, Washington, Wisconsin.

**50,000 to 150,000:** Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Hawaii, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah, West Virginia.

**Less than 50,000:** Alaska, Delaware, District of Columbia, European Congress, Idaho, Maine, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, Wyoming.

#### SPECIAL AWARD

★ A special award will be given to the state in each of the five membership classifications that has the largest number of study groups using *The PTA Magazine*. A report must be made substantiating a state's claim to this special award, and the state must show a gain in subscriptions as well.

#### Programs for Parents

★ To provide parents with the best possible current information, *The PTA Magazine* each year publishes an extensive parent education program. The study courses in the 1961-62 program are grouped under the title "The Eventful Drama of Growing Up"—a drama in which the children play the leading roles, and one that has three acts—a study course starring preschool children; another, school-age children; and the third, adolescent boys and girls. And this year there will be an extra article and guide for each study course—which brings to 27 the number of basic program resources available in *The PTA Magazine* between September and May!

Now is just the time to encourage your members to set up their parent education study groups and to suggest that they'll find no better study-discussion material than



© Hildan-Jay, Atlantic City, N.J.

• P.T.A. membership enrollment makes progress in Ventnor City, New Jersey, as the Ventnor P.T.A. membership chairman, Mrs. Thelma Fussner, presents a P.T.A. membership card to the city's chief of police, William Moyer (left), and Mrs. Thomas Spagnola, Atlantic County membership chairman, presents a card to Warren E. Titus (right), the mayor. It appears that Mrs. Fussner and Mrs. Spagnola took this opportunity to acquaint new members with "The PTA Magazine" too.

that provided in *The PTA Magazine*. A valuable aid in touching off interest in such groups is an eight-page leaflet, also titled *The Eventful Drama of Growing Up*, which lists and describes colorfully the Magazine's monthly billings for the three study courses. Copies may be obtained from your state congress or from the National Congress, 700 North Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois, for 35 cents a hundred, \$3.00 a thousand.

#### Helper, First Class

★ Looking for help in introducing *The PTA Magazine* to prospective subscribers? And to prospective P.T.A. members? As nice an "introducer" as you could want is *Finders ... Keepers*, an eight-page leaflet that skill-

fully presents the P.T.A.'s official Magazine—matching readers' needs to monthly offerings and quoting "satisfied subscribers."

You'll find this flyer handy to use at membership enrollment time and on through the year. Send it through the mail, hand it out at meetings and workshops, distribute it in door-to-door calls. And order it from your state congress or from the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 700 North Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois, for 35 cents a hundred copies, \$3.00 a thousand.

#### Budget-wise Investment

★ Is your P.T.A. familiar with *The PTA Magazine* bulk subscription plan, whereby a P.T.A. can order two or more subscriptions to be sent to one address?

Perhaps you're wondering how to make sure that various persons in your unit have access to the magazine—your president, your school principal, chairmen of program, study group, parent education, and Magazine committees. And perhaps you'd also like to make it possible for members and visitors to get single copies of the Magazine at P.T.A. meetings. Your answer? In both instances, a bulk subscription.

Some P.T.A.'s sell as many as fifty copies "newsstand style" at every meeting. And the unit is thus reimbursed for its initial outlay of funds when proceeds from the monthly sales are turned over to the treasurer.

Why not include a bulk subscription in your P.T.A. budget this year? You'll find it's a good investment—one that pays big dividends as more and more members read and use *The PTA Magazine*.

#### INSIDE THE PTA MAGAZINE October 1961

**Is There a Bully on Your Block?**  
by Grace Langdon and Irving W. Stout

**Children Think—But How?** by Marion L. Faegre

**Stop Your Stuttering** by Marian L. Gilmore

**Teen-agers—The Ad Man's Target** by Marilyn Dunsing

#### *The PTA Magazine* Subscription Rates

- \$1.50 a year—U.S. and possessions
- \$1.75 a year—Canada
- \$2.00 a year—Other countries

# **PTA.** **BULLETIN** **BOARD** BRIEF ITEMS OF CURRENT INTEREST FOR AND ABOUT P.T.A.'S

- **A RECORD HIGH IN MEMBERSHIP** enrollment at the Gulfport (Mississippi) High School P.T.A. was achieved through a number of activities designed to arouse special interest. In one such activity, students in third-year Spanish classes translated into English *Usted Debe Ser Miembro de Nuestra P.T.A.* (copies had been sent to their parents), the Spanish version of the National P.T.A. membership leaflet, *You Belong in Our P.T.A.*
- **PARENTS** in the Poynor Junior High School P.T.A. (Florence, South Carolina) know their school better now because they followed their children's schedules at an initial back-to-school program and continued their "education" through the year with programs that covered several of the school's offerings. Further enlightenment came with a science fair and an achievement fair, which accented all the school's courses.
- **STUDENTS WHO WANT AFTER-SCHOOL** and Saturday work are assisted by the James Bowie Junior High School P.T.A. (Beaumont, Texas) job program. In the unit's file are applications from qualified students and appropriate requests for help. Matching the student to a job includes placing him as close to home as possible.
- **A FULL-TIME RECREATION DIRECTOR** is working with youth in the Pennsylvania Avenue School (Savannah, Georgia) neighborhood as an outcome of a ten-month project by a youth planning committee, which includes representatives from the P.T.A. A P.T.A. panel discussion, to point up the recreation needs of area youth, featured the city recreation director, representatives of women's clubs, and members of the P.T.A.
- **WHEN PARENTS** of the Katherine Curren P.T.A. (Hopkins, Minnesota) asked their teachers "What can we do to help you?" the answer was "Send happy, well-adjusted children to school." How to carry out this mission, then, became the topic for a P.T.A. meeting and a pre-meeting questionnaire. A study of the completed questionnaires helped to determine which parents might well take part in a panel discussion at the meeting.
- **A "SILENT AUCTION"** raised funds for the Center Hill P.T.A. (Seventh District, Kentucky) last year. Donated articles were displayed on a table, each accompanied by a pencil and paper on which interested persons wrote their names and the amounts they were willing to pay. Later on the highest bidders, hearing their names read, claimed and paid for chosen items.
- **TO PROTECT AND IDENTIFY CHILDREN** in the event of an emergency, the Fairwood School P.T.A. (Berea, Ohio) undertook an experimental fingerprinting project. Under the plan the local police department makes a record of each child's right and left thumb prints, which are identified with his name, address, phone number, grade, and notes on basic physical characteristics and filed away at the school.



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- In case of emergency any youngster at the Fairwood School in Berea, Ohio, can always be identified by his fingerprints, which are recorded by a member of the local police department. Assisting here is Mrs. Wallace Oldach, chairman of the special committee appointed by the Fairwood P.T.A. to organize the project.
- **IN A SAFETY PROJECT** during American Education Week, members of the Ferguson P.T.A. (York, Pennsylvania) took the posts of the school safety patrols, with the aim of surveying safety conditions where traffic was heaviest. Each substitute was given a questionnaire and a comment sheet to fill out and return at the end of the week.
- **A GUIDANCE HANDBOOK**, prepared by the P.T.S.A. of the McLean (Virginia) High School and the school's guidance department, describes the guidance services offered by the school—for example, the help it gives students in looking toward college and/or career as they choose their curriculums.

● **WHEN "YOUR FAMILY AND MOTION PICTURES"** was discussed at a meeting of the Mark Twain Elementary P.T.A. (Garden Grove, California), the panel—a motion picture producer, a theater manager, a minister, a parent, a council chairman, and a high school student—knew something of the questions members wanted answered; prior to the meeting the unit had mailed survey sheets to more than a thousand parents.

● **SAFETY-CONSCIOUSNESS** among pupils and parents in the Union Free School District 30, Valley Stream, New York, is a result of student safety council activities. Set up at the suggestion of a district-wide P.T.A. safety committee, the councils, one in each school, consist of a delegate and an alternate from the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades. Members meet once a month; give talks to the primary grades; and, using check lists supplied by the committee, inspect school areas and report conditions to their faculty advisers.

● **TO WELCOME TEACHERS** at the beginning of the fall semester and to obtain, as "painlessly" as possible, the information needed about each teacher and child (name, parents' names, address, telephone number), the Roosevelt P.T.A. (Council Bluffs, Iowa) sent every teacher a letter of greetings and a short questionnaire.

● **THE WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS** of students entering the tenth grade, sponsored by the Ingraham High P.T.A. (Seattle, Washington) and the school administrators, drew parents of eleventh and twelfth graders as well. At each of four meetings, held the second week of school, panel members—principal, vice-principal, head counselor, and activities director—explained school policies and procedures, discussed problems, and answered questions.

● **ALL P.T.A.'S** in the Issaquah (Washington) School District—several preschool units, three elementary school units, and the P.T.A. of the combined junior-senior high school—met together for their first program of the year; each unit had requested the superintendent to speak at its first meeting. The superintendent and the school principals were introduced, and the building program and the future needs of the school district were discussed.

● **THE ADVANTAGES OF A SOCIAL CODE FOR PARENTS**, proposed by the juvenile protection committee of the Jane Addams Junior High School P.T.A. (Seattle, Washington) and adopted by P.T.A. members, were summarized thus by a juvenile court judge: "As parents, we assume the responsibility of knowing where our sons and daughters are when they are away from home, what they are doing, with whom they are spending their time, and what time they return home." The code deals with teenage transportation, entertainment in homes, hours, alcoholic beverages, and smoking.

● **TO CARRY OUT THE THEME** "Christmas Around the World," the December program of the Lane P.T.A. (Chicago, Illinois) featured the Christmas customs of various countries and an unusual gift-giving idea: Each person purchased one of the handmade ornaments on sale at the meeting and attached it to a small tree; the fund thus raised sent 23 CARE School Kits to children in other lands. The tree was taken to the pediatrics section of a nearby hospital.

● **THROUGH EFFORTS** of the Ecorse (Michigan) School One P.T.A. and its safety committee, two school-crossing signs were erected by the county road commission on the busy six-lane thoroughfare near the school.

● **ASPECTS OF CITIZENSHIP** were explored by a panel of four at a meeting of the Alexander Graham Bell P.T.A. (Chicago, Illinois): "Home Citizenship in Relation to School Contact" by the school principal; "How Parents Can Teach Citizenship in the Home" by a parent; "Civic Service of the Juvenile Officer to Youth" by a juvenile officer; and "Lakeview Youth Community Citizenship" by the chairman of the Lakeview Citizens Council youth committee.

### P.T.A.'s and UNICEF's "Trick or Treat" Project

THE LEGISLATION PROGRAM of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers has for many years identified UNICEF as one of its chief concerns among the agencies of the United Nations deserving of P.T.A. support. Each year the National Congress presents a statement at hearings of Congressional committees to urge adequate appropriations for this agency's program. Approval has also been granted to the distribution of "Hi Neighbor!" packets, sponsored by the U.S. Committee for UNICEF, through the National Congress committees on International Relations and Recreation.

On the other hand, the "Trick or Treat" project of the U.S. Committee for UNICEF, by which children collect funds for UNICEF instead of asking for treats on Halloween, has been twice considered by the Executive Committee and both times rejected. Disapproval of this program is based on long-standing disapproval of any project that involves children in the collecting of money.

Just as approval of CARE's Children's Book Fund did not carry with it automatic approval of the entire CARE program as a P.T.A. activity, neither does disapproval of the U.S. Committee for UNICEF's "Trick or Treat" project as a P.T.A. activity carry with it any implication of disapproval of the over-all program of UNICEF—which the National Congress and all its divisions are urged to support through legislation and the distribution of informational materials.

### ✓ CHECK YOUR CALENDAR

**P.T.A. Membership Enrollment Month**, October.

**Child Health Day**, October 2.

**Fire Prevention Week**, October 8-14.

**United Nations Day**, October 24. Program materials may be secured from the United States Committee for the United Nations, 816 Twenty-first Street, N.W., Washington, 6, D. C.

**American Education Week**, November 5-11. See the item in next month's *Bulletin*. For information on inexpensive materials to aid in planning observances, write to American Education Week, N.E.A., 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

**1962 National Congress Convention**, May 20-23, Portland, Oregon.

YEARS AGO when child labor was still rampant in the country, Mary England, national Membership chairman, used to say, "No child labor in membership drives." Happily, child labor has almost disappeared, and the word *drives* is no longer in our membership vocabulary. Nevertheless, a word of caution is not amiss: Children should not be used to aid in membership enrollment. Naturally we'd like to see every parent of every child enrolled, but we certainly do not want to take the risk of embarrassing any child whose parents, for one reason or another, do not send in their dues.

MARGARET E. JENKINS, *President*

## First Aid for Physical Fitness

SINCE THE THOUGHT was first expressed by the ancient Greeks, one of the basic objectives of education has been the development of a sound mind in a sound body. Is America doing as well as it should in the latter half of this cardinal rule? Research indicates we are not.

If our nation is to fulfill its destiny we must reaffirm the value of physical fitness. We must each become physically fit ourselves. And we must insist that our schools require every student to attain, and maintain, a proper level of fitness commensurate with his abilities.

With the cooperation of 19 educational and medical organizations, the President's Council on Youth Fitness has developed and recommended to our schools a basic fitness program.

It is a minimum plan, a bare beginning. It is directed to the many schools with inadequate programs. It will provide a basic program for any school, regardless of facilities or personnel. It stresses three points:

1. Identify the physically underdeveloped pupil and work with him to improve his physical capacity.
2. Provide a minimum of 15 minutes of vigorous activity every day for all pupils.
3. Use valid fitness tests to determine pupils' physical abilities and to evaluate their progress.

Every school can and should do at least this much. Only through such a program can underdeveloped pupils be identified and brought up to par, while the others are being motivated to greater physical achievement.

Does your school have such a program? If not, your local unit should recognize the problem and work with school authorities to establish an effective program for your local school.

—CHARLES B. (BUD) WILKINSON  
*Consultant to the President on Youth Fitness*

## Be Seeing You in THE PTA MAGAZINE!

● If you would like to have your views included in an article being prepared for *The PTA Magazine*, please send your answers to the following questions to

DR. EVELYN MILLIS DUVALL, *The PTA Magazine*  
700 North Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois

1. Age      Grade      Sex of each of your children

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Population of community is about \_\_\_\_\_

Husband is employed as \_\_\_\_\_

2. What are your children's favorite television programs?

3. What questions have your children asked you recently about love and marriage?

4. How do you feel about discussing intimate questions of life and love with your children?

\_\_\_\_\_ Uneasy or uncomfortable      Comment:  
\_\_\_\_\_ Makes no difference  
\_\_\_\_\_ Glad to any time  
\_\_\_\_\_ Would like to more often

5. To your knowledge, with whom else do your children talk over personal concerns?

6. What five movies have one or more of your children found interesting recently?

7. What popular songs are "all the rage" at your house now?

8. Where do you think your children get their ideas about love and marriage?

● If you cannot, for one reason or another, answer these questions yourself, please give them to one of your co-workers with the request that he or she answer them. To keep your copy of this *Bulletin* intact, you may write your answers on a separate sheet without copying the questions. Merely follow the numbers, which will serve as our guide. If you think your whole P.T.A. would be interested in answering these provocative questions, you may wish to mimeograph them for distribution at an early P.T.A. meeting. In any case, we shall deeply appreciate having your answers or those of other members of your P.T.A. And it will help greatly if we can hear from you before October 16.

—EVELYN MILLIS DUVALL  
*Director, Study Course on Adolescence*  
*The PTA Magazine*

## TEAMWORK DOES IT—TEAM UP TODAY—JOIN THE P.T.A.